

358.7 513.1 Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25 2.5% 5.5% .5% 2.0%

1.0%

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)E Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar 2017 211.7 162.0 666.9 221.3 698.2 2018 134.6 174.9 167.4 2019 126.1 179.0 232.6 176.9 714.6 125.6 237 2020 185 182.4 730 2021 147 195 248 185 775 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2017 .02 1.40 .29 2018 d.02 .31 .75 .32 1.36 2019 d.16 .35 .88 .24 1.31 2020 d.42 .40 .85 .37 1.20 .42 2021 .05 .90 .38 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year endar 2016 .1725 .1725 .1725 .1725 2017 .18 .18 .18 .72 .18 2018 .1875 .1875 .1875 .1875 .75 2019 .1975 .1975 .1975 .1975 2020 .2125 .2125

321.2

10 Yrs.

4.0% 5.5%

4.5% 2.5%

4 5%

**Past** 

5 Yrs.

Current Liab.

of change (per sh)

Revenues "Cash Flow

Dividends

**Book Value** 

ANNUAL RATES Past

customers. Also operates in Washington, New Mexico, and Hawaii. Main service areas: San Francisco Bay area, Sacramento Valley, Salinas Valley, San Joaquin Valley & parts of Los Angeles. Ac-

California Water Service Group posted rather uninspiring results to open 2020. It is worth noting that the utility's March-period financials water were adversely impacted by the California Public Utilities Commission's decision to postpone a resolution on the company's General Rate Case (GRC) that was filed in late 2019. On a year-over-year basis, firstquarter revenues of \$126 million were flat, while share losses ballooned to \$0.42 from a deficit of \$0.16 last year. Rising production costs and a \$2.2 million pension benefit expense also weighed on the bottom line. Should the rate case have been approved, results would have likely fell in line with our estimates. In the meantime, California is allowed to charge existing rates and, once the GRC is eventually passed, the difference between approved and interim rates can be recouped via surcharges over the subsequent 12-month stretch.

We now expect share profits to contract this year before rebounding in the next. Specifically, we are shaving \$0.35 from our 2020 EPS call, to \$1.20. For 2021, we anticipate a substantial

stock (4/20 proxy). Has 1,184 employees. Pres. and CEO: Martin A. Kropelnicki, Inc.: DE. Addr.: 1720 North First St., San Jose, CA 95112-4598. Tel.: 408-367-8200. Internet: www.calwatergroup.com.

earnings recovery, which is based partly on reduced operating costs and higher

The company's subsidiary, Washington Water Service Company, has acquired Rainer View Water Company. View Water serves more than Rainer 35,000 customers in Washington State through 27 water systems and 18,500 service connections, effectively doubling Washington Water's customer base. The deal's financial terms were not disclosed.

Infrastructure investment is apt to move forward as previously planned. Despite the lingering health pandemic, California's operations, including the maintenance and efficiency of its water service to West Coast residents, is undoubtedly essential. On balance, capital spending on infrastructure-related projects such as water main replacements and treatment plant upgrades ought to range between \$200 million-\$250 million per year over the pull to mid-decade.

At the recent quotation, neutrally ranked California Water stock is not presently on our recommendation list. Nicholas P. Patrikis July 10, 2020

(A) Basic EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (loss): , 4¢. Next earnings report due early Àugust. (B) Dividends historically paid in late Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan (D) In millions, adjusted for split.

available. **(C)** Incl. intangible assets. In '19: \$24.9 mill.,

(E) Excludes non-reg. rev.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 60 **Earnings Predictability** 65